

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5525
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
PROCESSING OF PASSPORT APPLICATIONS
Bellarmin Shri A.V.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether special monthly camps are conducted by District Passport Cells to process the applications for passports and to provide counselling to the applicants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has instructed the Regional Passport Officers to chalk out and announce the dates for holding such camps at regular intervals to expedite the process of issuance of passports to the applicants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) No.

(c) Yes, all Regional Passport Offices (RPOs)/Passport Offices (POs) have been instructed to hold Passport Adalats/Camps in the areas under their jurisdiction at regular intervals to redress the grievances of the public, including disposal of old passport cases in an expeditious manner.

(d) More than 106 Passport Adalats/Camps were held by Passport Offices in the country from January 2006 to April 2007. These have been very useful for the following:

- (i) Answering the queries/complaints of passport applicants;
- (ii) Grant orders for issuance of passports on the spot; and
- (iii) Disposal of old passport cases to the satisfaction of the applicants.